

St. Peters Bote,

the oldest Catholic newspaper in Saskatchewan, is published every Wednesday at Muenster, Sask. It is an excellent advertising medium.

SUBSCRIPTION:
\$2.00 per year, payable in advance. Single numbers 5 cents.

ADVERTISING RATES:
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Address all communications to
ST. PETERS BOTE,
Muenster, Sask., Canada.

St. Peters Bote.

Ein Familienblatt zur Erbauung und Belehrung.

The oldest Catholic newspaper of Saskatchewan, recommended by Rt. Rev. Bishop Pascal of Prince Albert and † Most Rev. Archbishop Langevin of St. Boniface, and published by the Benedictine Fathers of St. Peter's Abbey at Muenster, Saskatchewan, Canada.

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Notices of change of address should contain not only the new address, but also the old one.

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Remittances should be made only by Registered Letter, Postal Note or by Money Order, payable at Muenster, Sask.

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TO OUR NEW ABBOT ABBA, FATHER

Abba, Father! greetings, love!
Accept our greetings lovingly,
And choicest blessings from above.

Henceforth thy honored call shall be:
Abba, Father.

God bless thee, Father, greetings, hail!
Greetings from thy sons to thee.
Through tempests wild, in threaten'g gale
Our pleading cry shall ever be:
Abba, Father.

The Lord's own stead thou fillest here,
Aye, Christ Who said, 'Leave all seek Me'.
In joy and sorrow, peace and fear,
Thy children's cry shall ever be:
Abba, Father.

And Pilot of the PAX thou art,
O'er life's great restless, heaving sea.
When joys do sooth, temptations smart,
Our plaintive cry shall ever be:
Abba, Father.

Oh, guide the PAX, the ship of peace,
And lead it to eternity:
At heaven's port temptations cease—
Till then our cry shall ever be:
Abba, Father.

Thy compass is Saint Bennet's Rule;
It pointeth out the way to thee,
The way that leadeth to our goal—
Till this we've reached, our cry shall be:
Abba, Father.

At eve in weakness, morn in health,
In trial, in need, in poverty,
In joy, in peace unknown to wealth,
Our filial cry shall ever be:
Abba, Father.

Oh, see this off'ring of thy son,
He offers self entirely!
While years and decades onward run,
He turns in trust and hope to thee,
Abba, Father.

Behold! he has no will but thine,
Performs thy will unflinchingly;
For thine is but the will divine,
And this to know, he cries to thee:
Abba, Father.

He from his boyhood to the grave,
As novice, monk, knows none but thee,
Nor knows a tune that soothes him, save
The sweet and filial melody:
Abba, Father.

For as he calleth o'er and o'er,
He knows thou answer'st cheerily
In weal or woe; forevermore
His eyes, in hope, thus plead with thee,
Abba, Father.

Bestow thy blessing, true and dear,
Oh, grant this precious gift to me!
While every day, each month and year
We pledge ourselves anew to thee,
Abba, Father.

The Benedictine Abbot.

In few districts perhaps, is the meaning of the term Abbot better understood by the common folk than in the St. Peter's Colony. Any hoary old gentleman, any boy or girl can tell you who 'Father Abbot' is. And it is but natural that it should have been so, in the first case because of the intimate acquaintance and good will that existed between the late good Abbot Bruno and the souls entrusted to the care of his spiritual sons; and in the second place, because in the late Abbot were so nearly embodied those ideals which, according to our Holy Father Benedict, should be the marks of every Abbot. Thus by the personal acquaintance with a man who was to a remarkable degree possessed of those marks which St. Benedict makes the Abbot's own, we have a fair idea of what is meant by Abbot.

Nevertheless, the idea of one out in the world, is but an inadequate one of what an Abbot is. Only to the inmates of the monastery or to the privileged visitors to the abbey, is the Abbot really known. The word abbot is most suited to express the ideals which St. Benedict points out for the superior of the monastery, for it is derived from Abba, the Syriac word for father. The Abbot is not merely a superior, a rector or a teacher. He is a father. St. Benedict wishes his community to be a family and, the Abbot being the head of the family, is the father. True, the Abbot is not father in the natural sense, but in as far as he generates and brings up his children in the life of perfection.

Monastic life without the firm trust and belief that the Abbot represents Christ, would be folly, for no man would sacrifice his precious free will without acknowledging the supreme authority of God in His divine representative, the Abbot. No man has power over another except this authority comes from God. Progress in religious perfection depends greatly on the more or less sincere belief in the authority and responsibility of the Abbot.

Just as little as one can change one's father can one change one's Abbot. The old adage has it "Once Abbot, always Abbot." If the Abbot were elected only for a given time, he would be rather an official than father. St. Benedict has, furthermore, given to the Abbot a fulness of authority beyond that of any other religious superior. He has, on the other hand, full responsibility for the souls of his spiritual children. In this connection St. Benedict admonishes the Abbot and his sons when he says, "Let the Abbot order all things as he thinks best," and "nothing is to be done without the consent of the Abbot." He reminds the Abbot of his great responsibilities, of the difficulty of governing souls and exhorts him to be a pattern to all. He must have recourse to word and example, to severity and mildness, patience and zeal; he must be chaste, pious, meek, self-sacrificing, merciful; he must govern with great prudence, the "mother of virtues," as St. Benedict calls it. Then, mindful of his high dignity and great responsibility, he will strive truly to represent Christ by being most solicitous for the bodily and spiritual welfare of his sons.

Since the monastic family had no mother except the Holy Rule, the Abbot must exercise the care of a mother over it. With his sons day and night, he shares their joys and cares, their labor and recreation; he consoles them in illness, encourages them in difficulties and supports them in struggles, till he has closed their eyes and given them a last blessing. What a love and gratitude in return does not every true monk feel toward his beloved Abbot! With what reverence he kneels to kiss his ring and receive his blessing! How humbly he prostrates upon the floor before him to confess his faults, to receive a gentle penance, forgiveness and absolution!

The young monk has left home and all, but has not forgotten home and those dear to him. On the contrary, his love for mother,

father, brother, sister has not only waxed stronger, but has grown purer and more spiritual. He has left his father's house and brothers and sisters, and has in return gained not only a kind and compassionate father in the person of the Abbot, but a number of unselfish brethren who have left home and all in the same spirit of sacrifice for the same common end.

No man in the monastery is more busily engaged, more frequently visited than the Abbot. The Prior consults him on some important matter, the procurator enters his room to hand over his business accounts to the Abbot, to receive his stamp of approval and perchance his signature upon this or that document; a father about to leave for a mission asks the Abbot's blessing, a troubled young religious comes to pour out his heart to the Abbot and receive mild reproof or soothing words of encouragement.

At the end of day the Abbot and the brethren gather in the recreation room to spend some time in innocent amusement and relaxation. They then proceed to the chapel for the 'Opus Dei' (Divine Office) and night prayers where, before retiring, they receive the Abbot's blessing.

St. Benedict in his Holy Rule depicts a beautiful picture of the Abbot, the father of the community. In the Church too, the Abbot holds a position of high rank. On his hands he wears the ring of espousal to his community, and as the vicegerent of Jesus Christ he wears the cross upon his breast, carries in his hand the crozier, while his head is adorned with the mitre.

After the Signing of Peace

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 19. — Premier Ulmann of Letvia telegraphed yesterday from Riga announcing that the Letts on Thursday afternoon, recaptured Duena-muende, the port at the mouth of the Duena northwest of Riga, from the German-Russian forces, after fighting of the fiercest character. The Letts also regained Bolderaa, south of Duena-

muende and reached Ilgezem on the other bank of the river. They took 500 prisoners. Allied warships supported the Lettish attack. Prisoners taken by the Letts, it was added, declare that German troops are continually arriving in the Baltic from Germany.

LONDON, Oct. 19. — Belgium has annexed the Moresnet district to the province of Liege, according to an announcement received from Berlin. The inhabitants of Moresnet, with the exception of those of German origin, become Belgians, while citizens of Germany are given two years to declare for Germany or Belgium. If they decide for Germany they must leave the district. Under Article III. of the peace treaty of Versailles, Germany renounced rights and title over the territory of Prussian Moresnet, situated on the west of the road from Liege to Aix-la-Chapelle, and the road where it bounds this territory will belong to Belgium. Moresnet, lying on the boundary between the province of Liege and Prussia, has an area of about one and a half square miles.

LONDON, Oct. 20. — The various anti-Bolshevik forces continue their crushing pressure upon Trotsky's armies on all fronts of the rapidly narrowing territory dominated by the latter, according to advices received here today. While the fall of Petrograd, unofficially reported last week, had not been officially confirmed, the city was said to be completely isolated and General Yudenitch's forces were on the outskirts, according to a Helsingfors dispatch. A news agency dispatch from Helsingfors today said Yudenitch, by a rapid stroke east of Gatchina, succeeded in blowing up the railway bridge over the Tosna, cutting communication between Petrograd and Moscow. A Copenhagen dispatch says it was officially announced that Yudenitch had taken Ligovo, nine miles from Petrograd. According to the Copenhagen Tidende, a dispatch from Reval declared the Bolsheviks are prepared for a desperate defence of Petrograd. It said the city had been divided into ten defensive sections and that all streets had been barricaded,

with 250 picked soldiers at each barricade.

LONDON, Oct. 20. — Petrograd is virtually isolated, the war office announces today, anti-Bolshevik cavalry having cut the railroads leading from Petrograd to Vitebsk, Moscow and Vologda. The Petrograd Vitebsk road is cut at Viritz and the Petrograd-Moscow railroad at Tosna, south and southeast of Petrograd respectively. The lines at Vologda are cut south of Lake Ladoga.

PARIS, Oct. 21. — The first interned German civilians to be permitted to return to their native land left France yesterday, the party consisting of 370. On November 2 the remainder of the interned Germans, estimated to number about 5,000, will leave for Germany.

LONDON, Oct. 22. — All necessary preparations for the trial of former Emperor William are being made, it was announced in the House of Commons today by Mr. Bonar Law, the government leader. The request to the Netherlands government for the surrender of the ex-emperor, he explained, could not be made until all the powers had signed the peace treaty.

PARIS, Oct. 22. — The supreme council today refused to grant the request of the German government that German fishing boats, trawlers and coast-wise vessels be exempted from the measures of surveillance taken by the allied fleets in the Baltic. The council ruled that there could be no modification of the blockade of Soviet Russia in connection with which these measures have been taken, but that the measures would be applied with leniency.

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 22. — A dispatch to the Politiken from Helsingfors reports that French warships have been bombarding Kronstadt since Monday. They are able to keep beyond range of fortress artillery, owing to the long range of their guns.

LONDON, Oct. 22. — Two Bolshevik torpedo boat destroyers were sunk in Kopenia Bay, Gulf of Finland, when they attempted to attack Estonian vessels and British destroyers on Tuesday, the admiralty announced today. Six survivors from the Bolshevik

vessels, were picked up. The British and Estonians sustained no casualties.

LONDON, Oct. 22. — The Bolshevik forces have been flung back in the Kamishin section, losing 3,000 men, who were prisoners, and many machine guns, according to General Denikine's wireless message. Extremely fierce fighting is reported in that district.

VLADIVOSTOCK, Oct. 22. — General Knox, chief of the British military mission, in a statement to the Russian telegraph agency at Omsk, says: "Great Britain has furnished the Siberians and General Denikine with great quantities of munitions, hundreds of thousands of rifles, hundreds of millions of cartridges, hundreds of thousands of machine guns, as well as several hundred thousand sets of uniforms and equipments. Each cartridge fired this year by Russian soldiers was made in England, by English material, and by English workmen, the supplies being shipped to Russia on English steamers."

LONDON, Oct. 22. — Addressing Liberals at Westminster last night, Herbert Asquith, former premier, protested strongly against interference in the affairs of Russia. He asserted that the government has expended hundreds of millions in the operations in Russia since the armistice, and urged the Liberal leaders to challenge the government for a full statement on his subject. Mr. Asquith appealed for a drastic reduction of armaments as proof of good faith in the league of nations. He advocated a levy on war profits and an inquiry into the question of a general levy on capital as a means of reducing the war debt.

VIENNA, Oct. 23. — The national assembly yesterday eliminated Austria from the constitution adopted recently the provision declaring Austria to be a composite part of Germany. The elimination was determined upon to meet the terms of the peace treaty. Dr. Otto Bauer, who last week resigned as a minister of socialization, has been selected as chairman of a commission to frame a new constitution for Austria.

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